

TOWN OF HAMPDEN
DOROTHEA DIX PARK ORDINANCE

1. Purpose. The purpose of this Ordinance is to provide rules and regulations for the use of and conduct in the Dorothea Dix Park situated in Hampden.

2. Motor Vehicle Access. Access to the Park by motor vehicles (as defined in 29 M.R.S.A. §1) will generally be permitted between April 1 and November 1, although the Public Works Director shall have the authority to provide for different dates of motor vehicle access if circumstances are such that alternative dates are necessary to preserve the condition of the Park or are necessary for the proper operation and maintenance of the Park. No person shall operate a motor vehicle in the Park, nor leave a motor vehicle standing or parked therein, during times when it is closed to the public. No person shall operate a motor vehicle in the Park on or in any area except established roads, driveways, or parking areas, or such other areas as may, on occasion, be specifically designated as temporary parking areas by the Public Works Director.

3. Other Vehicles Prohibited. No person shall operate a trail bike, all terrain vehicle, snowmobile, or any other motorized recreational vehicle within the Park.

4. Hours. The Park shall be open to the public during the hours of 6:00 A.M. to 10:00 P.M., Eastern Standard Time or Eastern Daylight Time, as may be in effect from time to time.

5. Camping. No person shall set up tents, shacks, or any other temporary shelter for the purpose of overnight camping, nor shall any person leave in a park after closing hours, any movable structures or special vehicle that could be used for such purposes. Upon prior approval of a law enforcement officer of the Town of Hampden, overnight camping may be permitted in situations involving unique circumstances.

6. Firearms/Hunting. No person shall carry or discharge a firearm or engage in any hunting activity within the Park.

7. Fires. No person shall kindle, build, maintain or use a fire except in areas designated for such purposes. All fires shall be properly extinguished before the person utilizing the same leaves the Park. Any fire shall be continuously under the care and supervision of a competent person from the time it is kindled until it is extinguished. Fires may be prohibited by the Public Works Director when, in his or her judgment, the conditions are such that any fire would represent a safety hazard.

8. Wood. No person shall cut any wood within the Park without a prior permit from the Public Works Director, who shall have the discretion to deny any application for such a permit if he or she determines that the proposed activity is inconsistent with the goal of maintaining the majority of the Park as wooded land.

9. Alcoholic Beverages. No person shall bring alcoholic beverages, or controlled substances into the Park, nor shall any person drink or use the same at any time or be under the influence of the same in the Park.

10. Trash. No person shall scatter, drop or leave any debris, trash or other rubbish within the Park except in receptacles provided for that purpose.

11. Animals. All animals brought into the Park shall be under the control of their owners or custodians at all times so as to not interfere with the enjoyment of the Park by other members of the public.

12. Reservations. Although all areas of the Park are to be generally open to the public, the ballfield area of the Park may be reserved on a first come, first served basis through the Town Office for family and civic group outings, community groups and the like. Any person seeking the reservation of said portion of the Park for such a use shall make application to the Town Office, setting forth their name and address, the person or group sponsoring the event, and the day and hours for which the reservation is sought.

13. Enforcement.

A. Any law enforcement officer of the Town of Hampden shall have the authority to revoke the permission of any individual to use the Park when the officer observes, or has probable cause to believe, that such individual has violated any provisions of this ordinance, committed a civil infraction within the Park, or has violated any provision of the laws and ordinances of the State of Maine or the Town of Hampden within the Park.

B. The Public Works Director and his or her subordinate employees shall be empowered to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance. In addition, the Code Enforcement Officer and the

members of the Hampden Police Department shall also have the authority to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

14. Penalties. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provisions of this Ordinance shall be fined not less than Twenty-five Dollars (\$25.00) nor more than One Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$150.00) for each violation. Each day that such violation is committed or permitted to continue shall constitute a separate offense and shall be punishable as such. Any fines recovered shall inure to the benefit of the Town of Hampden.

15. Separability. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Ordinance is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such provision shall be deemed as separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

11/3/86 Public hearing

Adoption

Effective date: 12/3/86